

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An apparatus for dynamically managing a user's favorite channels, the apparatus comprising:

a user input unit receiving a channel change input from the user;

a channel list storage unit storing an entire channel list comprising channels receivable using a tuner and channel preference information regarding the user's preference degrees for channels;

a control unit calculating a preference degree for a channel selected in response to the channel change input received by the user input unit and analyzing a pattern of channel change inputs; and

an output unit providing content of the selected channel according to calculation and analysis results of the control unit,

wherein the control unit provides the content of the selected channel through the output unit if the calculated preference degree for the selected channel satisfies a predetermined reference, and the control unit provides the content of the selected channel through the output unit if the calculated degree for the selected channel does not satisfy the predetermined reference and a predetermined pattern of channel change inputs is received by the user input unit.

2. (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the channel preference information is an accumulation of times while the user stays at each channel.

3. (original): The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the accumulation is an accumulation of times while the user stays at each channel in each time zone.

4. (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the predetermined pattern of the control unit provides the content of the selected channel through the output unit when the calculated preference degree for the selected channel satisfies a predetermined reference, and even when the calculated preference degree for the selected channel does not satisfy the predetermined reference, the control unit provides the content of the selected channel through the output unit if channel change inputs have a pattern of is “channel up – channel down – channel up” or a pattern of “channel down – channel up – channel down”.

5. (original): The apparatus of claim 4, wherein when the calculated preference degree for the selected channel does not satisfy the predetermined reference of the selected channel whose content is provided according to the pattern of the channel change inputs, the control unit provides the content of the selected channel through the output unit if the selected channel is present between two channels that have preference degrees satisfying the predetermined reference and that are adjacent to the selected channel.

6. (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~when the calculated preference degree for the selected channel does not satisfy a predetermined reference, the control unit provides the content of the selected channel through the output unit if~~ the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs is that either of “channel up” or and “channel down” is continuously received as the channel change input for a predetermined period of time.

7. (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~when the calculated preference degree for the selected channel does not satisfy a predetermined reference, the control unit provides the content of the selected channel through the output unit if~~ the predetermined

pattern of channel change inputs is that either of “channel up” or “channel down” is received
as the channel change input a predetermined number of consecutive times.

8. (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the content is a broadcast program.

9. (currently amended): A method of dynamically managing a user's favorite channels, the method comprising:

receiving a channel change input from the user using an apparatus that stores an entire channel list comprising channels receivable using a tuner and channel preference information regarding the user's preference degrees for channels;

calculating a preference degree for a channel selected in response to the received channel change input and analyzing a pattern of the channel change input; and

providing content of the selected channel according to results of the calculation and the analysis,

wherein the content of the selected channel is provided if the calculated preference degree for the selected channel satisfies a predetermined reference, and the content of the selected channel is provided if the calculated preference degree for the selected channel does not satisfy the predetermined reference and a predetermined pattern of channel change inputs is received by the user input unit.

10. (original): The method of claim 9, wherein the channel preference information is an accumulation of times while the user stays at each channel.

11. (original): The method of claim 10, wherein the accumulation is an accumulation of times while the user stays at each channel in each time zone.

12. (currently amended): The method of claim 9, ~~wherein in the providing of the content of the selected channel, when the calculated preference degree for the selected channel~~

~~satisfies a predetermined reference, and even when the calculated preference degree for the selected channel does not satisfy the predetermined reference, the content of the selected channel is provided through the output unit if channel change inputs have a pattern of the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs is “channel up – channel down – channel up” or a pattern of “channel down – channel up – channel down”.~~

13. (original): The method of claim 12, wherein in the providing of the content of the selected channel, when the calculated preference degree for the selected channel does not satisfy the predetermined reference of the selected channel whose content is provided according to the pattern of the channel change inputs, the content of the selected channel is provided through the output unit if the selected channel is present between two channels that have preference degrees satisfying the predetermined reference and that are adjacent to the selected channel

14. (currently amended): The method of claim 9, wherein ~~in the providing of the content of the selected channel, when the calculated preference degree for the selected channel does not satisfy a predetermined reference, the content of the selected channel is provided through the output unit if the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs is that~~either of “channel up” ~~and~~ “channel down” is continuously received as the channel change input for a predetermined period of time.

15. (currently amended): The method of claim 9, wherein ~~in the providing of the content of the selected channel, when the calculated preference degree for the selected channel does not satisfy a predetermined reference, the content of the selected channel is provided through the output unit if the predetermined pattern of channel change inputs is that~~either of “channel up” ~~and~~ “channel down” is received as the channel change input a predetermined number of consecutive times.

16. (original): The method of claim 9, wherein the content is a broadcast program.